(d) In the area of mud housing technology, different R&D eroups are workinc on for improving traditional methods (like Adobe, rammed earth watle and daub) as well as for developing new techniques which include compacted and stabilised mud blocks, pneumatically rammed earth etc. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have formulated specifications for soil based blocks.

Urban Development Project in Maharashtrr

3223. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY :

DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHAN-DRA JICHKAR :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVE LOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Central Gran'r for the various Urban Development Pro jects given to the Maharashtra State dur ing the year 1992-93;

(b) whether Maharashtra Governmen' has spent all the grants or whether any such money has lapsed; and

(c) whether there was any delay in the disbursement of grants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS TRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) Sine Urban Development is a State subject, the Planning Commission requires that al urban development projects should forr part of the State plan. However, one tim special grant of Rs. 100 crores was san tioned in 1987 by the Government of Ind to the Government of Maharashtra fo tackling the problems of slums and housir in Bombay. Out of Rs. 100 crores Rs. 8? crores have been released to the Statf Government. The balance will be releaser based on its performance and complianc of conditions subject to which the specif' assistance was granted. In addi ion, on tht recommendation of the Ninth Financ Commission, a one time grant-in-aid c Rs. 50 crores was sanctioned to Goverr ment of Maharashtra for slum clearance and environmental improvement of slun and provision of basic amenities in the cit of Bombay with the condition 'hat the Stafc. Government would also make a matching provision of the same amount for this purpose. Aeainst this, the Ministry of Finance had released Rs. 48.33 crores as Central share with reference to the provision made by the State Government. Recently, an additional Central assistance of Rs. 20 crores has been allocated by the Planning Commission for tackl'ne special problems of Bombay during 92-93 Annual Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

Construction of Memorial in Delhi

3224. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to build a sui'able memorial in Delhi in honour of those known and unknown men and women who laid down their lives in fighting communal strife and violance; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVET OPMPMT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI (P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Urban Development has not received any proposal for building such a memorial.

Allocation of Land to Schools and Educational Institutions in Delhi

3225. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :

SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA :

Wilt the Minister of URBAN DEVE-LOPMENT toe .pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have evolved a policy to accorded the highest priority for allocation of land to schools and educational institutions in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) No policy has

been evolved by the Government to accord the highest priority for allocation of land to schools and educational institutions in Delhi.

(b) Not applicable in view of reply to (a) above.

Shortage of drinkink water in metropolitan cities

3226. SHRI RAJANI RANIAN SAHU : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOP-MENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is acute shortage of drinking water in metropolitan cities, and

(b) if so, what measures Govenrment propose to take to increase the availability of drinking water

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K THUNGON) ; (a) and (b) Water Supply is a state subject. It is the responsibility of the State Government/local body to provide adequate safe drinking water to the people in urban areas including metropolitan cities.

Due to rapid urbanisation and scarcity of raw water on account of depletion of ground water sources and lack of nearby surface water resources, the demand for drinking water as well as the cost for providing the same is increasing.

The Ministry of Urban Development has drawn the attention of the State Governments to the need for making the sector self-sustaining by cost recovery through user charges and conferring grea'er autonomy to the corporations/municipalities in the matter of fixation tariffs.

World Bank assistance is being provided for augmentation of water supply facilities in Bombay, Madras and Hyderabad under the following projects :—

Project	Cost (Rs. Crores)	World Bank assistance (US $ Million)
1. 3rd Bombay Water Supply & Sewerage . . .	800.0	185.0
2. Madras Water Supply & Sanitation . . .	205.0	69.0
3. Hyderabad Water Supply & Sanitation . .	257.06	79.9

Fire in Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi

3227. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of damage caused by fire which took place in Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi on 4th March, 1993;

(b) what are the reasons therefor ;

(c) the names of high-rise buildings owned by Government and private concerns in Delhi for which fire clearance certificate have not so far been obtained and the raesons therefor; and

(d) what action Government have taken or propose to take against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON- : (a) Office records, furniture, electrica" fittings, false ceiling etc. are reported to have been damaged due to fire on the 4th and 5th floors in Udyog Bbawan.

(b) The Committee constituted by CPWD to enquire into the fire in Udyog Bhawan has not been able to pinpoint the specific cause of fire.

(c) A list of unsafe government and pri vate high-rise buildings is given in the state ment attached (See below). Fire clearance certificate are issued by the Delhi Fire Ser vice on completion of all fire safety related measures in the high rise buildings.

(d) The Delhi Fire Service had issued notices to occupiers of unsafe government and private buildings deficient in fire safety